Claim 1. A method of compiling or interpreting a source code comprising:

defining map container objects having keys, said keys comprising strings conforming to requirements for identifiers;

using said keys of said map container objects as ordinary identifiers in the source code, said keys identifying objects found as value objects in said map container objects;

using said map container objects as namespaces; and

declaring values of said keys as names qualified by said map container objects.

Claim 2. The method of claim 1 wherein said objects are in a filesystem.

Claim 3. The method of claim 1 wherein said objects are identified by Uniform Resource Identifiers (URIs).

Claim 4. The method of claim 1 wherein said objects are identified by environment variables.

Claim 5. The method of claim 1 wherein said objects are identified by run-time object name resolution schemes.

Claim 6. A method of compiling or interpreting a source code comprising:

defining map container objects having keys, said keys comprising strings conforming to requirements for identifiers;

using said keys of said map container objects as ordinary identifiers in the source code, said keys identifying objects found as value objects in said map container objects;

using said map container objects as namespaces; and

directing compilers or interpreters to search at least one of said map container objects for a value of at least one of said keys used as an ordinary identifier.

Claim 7. The method of claim 6 wherein said objects are in a filesystem.

Claim 8. The method of claim 6 wherein said objects are identified by Uniform Resource Identifiers (URIs).

Claim 9. The method of claim 6 wherein said objects are identified by environment variables.

Claim 10. The method of claim 6 wherein said objects are identified by run-time object name resolution schemes.

Claim 11. A storage medium encoded with machine-readable code, the code including instructions for causing a computer to implement a method of compiling or interpreting a source code comprising:

defining map container objects having keys, said keys comprising strings conforming to requirements for identifiers;

using said keys of said map container objects as ordinary identifiers in the source code, said keys identifying objects found as value objects in said map container objects;

using said map container objects as namespaces; and

declaring values of said keys as names qualified by said map container objects.

Claim 12. The storage medium of claim 11 wherein said objects are in a filesystem.

Claim 13. The storage medium of claim 11 wherein said objects are identified by Uniform Resource Identifiers (URIs).

Claim 14. The storage medium of claim 11 wherein said objects are identified by environment variables.

Claim 15. The storage medium of claim 11 wherein said objects are identified by run-time object name resolution schemes.

Claim 16. A storage medium encoded with machine-readable code, the code including instructions for causing a computer to implement a method of compiling or interpreting a source code comprising:

defining map container objects having keys, said keys comprising strings conforming to requirements for identifiers;

using said keys of said map container objects as ordinary identifiers in the source code, said keys identifying objects found as value objects in said map container objects;

using said map container objects as namespaces; and

directing compilers or interpreters to search at least one of said map container objects for a value of at least one of said keys used as an ordinary identifier.

Claim 17. The storage medium of claim 16 wherein said objects are in a filesystem.

Claim 18. The storage medium of claim 16 wherein said objects are identified by Uniform Resource Identifiers (URIs).

Claim 19. The storage medium of claim 16 wherein said objects are identified by environment variables.

Claim 20. The storage medium of claim 16 wherein said objects are identified by run-time object name resolution schemes.

Claim 21. A signal propagated over a propagation medium, the signal encoded with code, the code including instructions for causing a computer to implement a method of compiling or interpreting a source code comprising:

defining map container objects having keys, said keys comprising strings conforming to requirements for identifiers;

using said keys of said map container objects as ordinary identifiers in the source code, said keys identifying objects found as value objects in said map container objects;

using said map container objects as namespaces; and

declaring values of said keys as names qualified by said map container objects.

Claim 22. The signal propagated over the propagation medium of claim 21 wherein said objects are in a filesystem.

Claim 23. The signal propagated over the propagation medium of claim 21 wherein said objects are identified by

Uniform Resource Identifiers (URIs).

Claim 24. The signal propagated over the propagation medium of claim 21 wherein said objects are identified by

environment variables.

Claim 25. The signal propagated over the propagation medium of claim 21 wherein said objects are identified by

run-time object name resolution schemes.

Claim 26. A signal propagated over a propagation medium, the signal encoded with code, the code including instructions for causing a computer to implement a method of compiling or interpreting a source code comprising:

defining map container objects having keys, said keys comprising strings conforming to requirements for identifiers;

using said keys of said map container objects as ordinary identifiers in the source code, said keys identifying objects found as value objects in said map container objects;

using said map container objects as namespaces; and

directing compilers or interpreters to search at least one of said map container objects for a value of at least one of said keys used as an ordinary identifier.

Claim 27. The signal propagated over the propagation medium of claim 26 wherein said objects are in a filesystem.

Claim 28. The signal propagated over the propagation medium of claim 26 wherein said objects are identified by

Uniform Resource Identifiers (URIs).

Claim 29. The signal propagated over the propagation medium of claim 26 wherein said objects are identified by

environment variables.

Claim 30. The signal propagated over the propagation medium of claim 26 wherein said objects are identified by

run-time object name resolution schemes.